

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
AT CHATTANOOGA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	)	
	)	Case No. 1:24-cr-024-1
v.	)	
	)	Judge Travis R. McDonough
	)	
THOMAS JAMES HEFFNER	)	Magistrate Judge Susan K. Lee
	)	

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**ORDER**

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Magistrate Judge Susan K. Lee filed a report and recommendation recommending that the Court: (1) grant Defendant's motion to withdraw his not guilty plea as to Count One of the one-count Indictment; (2) accept Defendant's guilty plea as to Count One; (3) adjudicate the Defendant guilty of Count One; (4) defer a decision on whether to accept the plea agreement (Doc. 23) until sentencing; and (5) order that Defendant remain in custody until sentencing in this matter (Doc. 29). Neither party filed a timely objection to the report and recommendation. After reviewing the record, the Court agrees with Magistrate Judge Lee's report and recommendation. Accordingly, the Court **ACCEPTS** and **ADOPTS** the magistrate judge's report and recommendation (Doc. 29) pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) and **ORDERS** as follows:

1. Defendant's motion to withdraw his not guilty plea as to Count One of the Indictment is **GRANTED**;
2. Defendant's plea of guilty to Count One is **ACCEPTED**;
3. Defendant is hereby **ADJUDGED** guilty of Count One;
4. A decision on whether to accept the plea agreement is **DEFERRED** until sentencing; and

Defendant **SHALL REMAIN** in custody until sentencing in this matter, which is scheduled to take place on **May 16, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. [EASTERN]** before the undersigned.

**SO ORDERED.**

*/s/Travis R. McDonough*

**TRAVIS R. MCDONOUGH  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE**